AMENDMENT

Please amend the application, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents.

IN THE CLAIMS

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Previously amended) A recombinant canine herepes virus (CHV) comprising and expressing at least one heterologous nucleotide sequence, wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes rabies virus G protein.

18. (Previously amended) The recombinant CHV according to claim 17, wherein the at least one heterologous nucleotide sequence is in at least one site selected from the group consisting of ORF3 (SEQ ID NO:4), ORF5 (SEQ ID NO:5), the thymidine kinase gene, and the intergenic region corresponding to genes coding for the large subunit and the small subunit of ribonucleotide reductase.

19. (Previously added) The recombinant CHV of claim 18, wherein at least one heterologous nucleotide sequence is inserted by simple insertion, or after total or partial deletion of the insertion locus.

20. (Previously added) The recombinant CHV according to claim 17 further comprising a strong eukaryotic promoter, wherein at least one heterologous nucleotide sequence is operably linked to the strong eukaryotic promoter.

21. (Previously added) The recombinant CHV according to claim 20, wherein the strong eukaryotic promoter comprises a CMV immediate-early promoter.

22. (Previously added) The recombinant CHV of claim 21, wherein the CMV immediate-early promoter comprises a murine or human CMV immediate-early promoter.

23. (Previously amended) The recombinant CHV according to claim 17 further comprising at least one additional heterologous nucleotide sequences inserted into at least one insertion site, wherein each heterologous nucleotide sequence is under the control of a different eukaryotic promoter.

24. (Previously added) The recombinant CHV according to claim 23, wherein the eukaryotic promoters are CMV immediate-early promoters of different animal origin.

25. (Previously amended) A recombinant CHV comprising and expressing a first heterologous nucleotide sequence operably linked to a first promoter and a second heterologous

nucleotide sequence operably linked to a second promoter, wherein the first heterologous nucleotide sequence encodes rabies virus G antigen, wherein the first promoter comprises a CMV immediate-early promoter, and wherein the first and second promoters are arranged so that their 5' ends are adjacent.

26. (Previously added) The recombinant CHV according to claim 17 further comprising at least one heterologous nucleotide sequence encoding an immunomodulatory polypeptide.

27. (Previously amended) The recombinant CHV according to claim 26, wherein the immunomodulatory polypeptide is a cytokine.

28. (Previously amended) The recombinant CHV according to claim 17, wherein the heterologous nucleotide sequence further comprises an expression cassette comprising from 5' to 3', a promoter, two or more coding regions separated in pairs by an internal ribosome entry site (IRES), and a polyadenylation signal.

29-37. (Cancelled)

38. (Previously added) The recombinant CHV according to claim 17, wherein the at least one heterologous nucleotide sequence is in the ORF5 (SEQ ID NO:5) site.

39. (Previously added) The recombinant CHV according to claim 17, wherein the at least one heterologous nucleotide sequence is in the thymidine kinase gene site.

40. (Previously amended) The recombinant CHV according to claim 17, wherein the at least one heterologous nucleotide sequence is in the intergenic region corresponding to genes coding for the large subunit and the small subunit of ribonucleotide reductase.

41. (Previously amended) A vaccine or immunological composition comprising the recombinant CHV as claimed in any one of claims 17-28 or 38-40.

42. (Previously amended) A multivalent vaccine or immunological composition comprising, as a mixture or to be admixed, at least a first recombinant CHV and a second recombinant CHV; wherein either the first or second recombinant CHV is as claimed in claim 17, and wherein the heterologous nucleotide sequence in the first recombinant CHV is different than the heterologous nucleotide sequence in the second recombinant CHV.

43. (Currently amended) A method for inducing an immunological response in a canine comprising <u>intranasally</u> administering to the canine the recombinant CHV as claimed in any one of claims 17-28 or 38-40.

44. (Currently amended) A method for inducing an immunological response in a canine animal comprising intranasally administering to the canine a vaccine or immunological composition as claimed in claim 41.

45. (Currently amended) A method for inducing an immunological response in a canine comprising intranasally administering to the canine a vaccine or immunological composition as claimed in claim 42.

46. (Currently amended) The method of claim 43, wherein the administering comprises ~~mucosally~~ intranasally administering a dose comprising between 10^2 and 10^5 CCID50 of the recombinant CHV.

47. (Currently amended) The method of claim 44, wherein the administering comprises ~~mucosally~~ intranasally administering a dose comprising between 10^2 and 10^5 CCID50 of the recombinant CHV.

48. (Currently amended) The method of claim 45, wherein the administering comprises ~~mucosally~~ intranasally administering a dose comprising between 10^2 and 10^5 CCID50 of the recombinant CHV.

49. (Previously amended) A method for expressing rabies virus G protein, said method comprising contacting a suitable cell with a recombinant CHV as claimed in any one of claims 17-28 or 38-40.